

Abstract (Basic): WO 9312232 A

Isolated DNA segments having specified nucleotide sequences are new. Also new are (1) DNA sequences comprising a promoter operably

linked to (A) (or a sufficient fragment of it to permit expression of an antibody with affinity for an HIV gp120 epitope or neutralising ability in in vitro assay for HIV-1 or -2 or SIV), (2) recombinant monoclonal antibody MAb with neutralising activity and affinity as specified in (1), and (3) immunotoxins consisting of MAb plus a cytotoxin.

Most pref. MAb contains a heavy chain variable region encoded by (1) and a light chain variable region encoded by (3). It may be in the form of a Fab or single-chain Fv fragment.

USE/ADVANTAGE - MAb bind to a discontinuous epitope on gp.120, block binding of gp120 to the CD4 receptor and neutralise a wide range of HIV isolates. They (and the derived immunotoxins) can be used to treat immune deficiency, esp. at doses of 0.1-10 mg/kg. Suitable cytotoxins are of bacterial, plant or fungal origin.

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